SAFE moves forward

At the STMA Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA, on January 24, 2004, SAFE Chair, Mike Schiller, CSFM, reported on the SAFE Board of Trustees. He noted the Board consists of three STMA Board Members, three representatives of SAFE major contributors, three individuals in other sports turf related positions, and Executive Director, Steve Trusty. The 2003 Board consisted of Boyd Montgomery, CSFM; Dr. Tony Koski, and Monty Montague from the STMA Board; Tom Lynn of Jacobsen; Mike Scoletta of John Deere, and Dale Getz, CSFM, of the Toro Company, representing SAFE contributors; and Bob Curvy of Covermaster, and Greg Petry of the Waukegan Park District, as well as himself, from the other group, and Trusty. Leaving the Board in January, at the end of their three-year terms of service were Monty Montague and Tom Lynn. Dr. Koski, who had completed his term on the STMA Board, was no longer eligible as an STMA Board representative, so was also leaving the SAFE Board. Chair Schiller thanked them for their service to SAFE.

Schiller said, “On behalf of SAFE, myself, and the other SAFE Nominating Committee members: STMA nominating Committee Chair Murray Cook, STMA President Bob Campbell, CSFM, and STMA Executive Director Steve Trusty, I place the following individuals into nomination to the SAFE Board of Trustees to be voted on by the corporate member, STMA: George Trivett, CSFM, and Lance Tibbetts, as representatives from the STMA Board, Trivett to be voted upon for a three-year term, and Tibbetts to be appointed to fulfill the remaining year of the three-year term in the position vacated by Koski, and Joe Zvanut of Jacobsen as a representative of the contributors for a three-year term, and Mike Schiller, CSFM, for another three year term as a representative in the “other” category.” Schiller called for a motion to accept the SAFE Board of Trustees as put forward and asked that they be elected by acclamation. Eric Adkins so moved. Monty Montague seconded the motion. The motion carried.

As the first action of the 2004 Board, Schiller noted that SAFE will accept any donation and urged all to get involved in giving. The major thrust for 2004 will be seeking greater funding for sports specific research, finalizing the research criteria and beginning assessment of research projects for funding.

Schiller reported that SAFE was off to a good start in 2004 and accepted a $500 donation to SAFE presented by Darian Daily on behalf of the Ohio Chapter.

He thanked Jacobsen for their funding of the SAFE Golf Tournament, held in conjunction with the STMA annual conference, for the last three years. He reported that this year’s participants had a great time playing the beautiful La Costa course and the 2004 Tournament netted over $11,000 for SAFE.

He also reported that, in the area of scholarships, SAFE is doing well. Toro has established scholarships at the undergraduate and graduate levels in the name of Dr. Jim Watson. The silent and live auction and raffle funding have gone to the scholarship fund as well. He thanked Florida Chapter President and award-winning auctioneer, Tom Curran, for all his efforts and noted that the live auction raised $3,600 and the silent auction $4,200. He also thanked George Toma who willingly gave the shirt off his back for SAFE during the live Auction.

Schiller noted that funding for SAFE will help support research for better science, technology and equipment. And it will support the education and training of sports turf managers and aspiring sports turf managers. Most importantly, your donation will help provide the best sports surfaces for all levels of play.

A safe, playable field is the strong foundation of any game. Working together, we can build the SAFE Foundation into a strong resource for sports turf managers around the world. Contact Steve Trusty (Steve@st.omhcoxmail.com) for information on making contributions to — or receiving research endorsements from — the SAFE Foundation.